

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Larry E. Gabriel was appointed Secretary of the Department of Agriculture by Governor William J. Janklow on February 23, 2000, and reappointed by Governor M. Michael Rounds and has been a vigorous and passionate advocate for South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Prior to fulfilling his responsibilities as Department of Agriculture Secretary, Larry served South Dakota as a distinguished State Representative from 1983 to 1998, served on the Legislative Research Council (LRC) Executive Board, served as House Majority Whip and served as House Majority Leader from 1993 to 1998; and,

Whereas, Larry is well respected for his leadership at the local level as a current member of the Hospital Board in Philip, South Dakota, and for his service as a Haakon County Commissioner from 1975 to 1982; and,

Whereas, In all of Larry's leadership positions, he has demonstrated his considerable knowledge, experience and speaking ability, with one source sharing his uncanny ability to do a 15- to 60-minute presentation with two minutes of preparation and three notes on a napkin, and also to his great credit, the ability to listen to all sides of a debate and join with others in making rational decisions; and,

Whereas, Larry was born and raised on a ranch in western South Dakota, graduated from Wall High School, and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics from South Dakota State University where he was also recognized as the 1969 Doane's Outstanding Ag Economics Student; and,

Whereas, Larry and his wife, Charlotte, along with son, Jeff, and daughter-in-law, Heather, operate ranches in Pennington and Haakon Counties, their daughter, Mindy Metzger and son-in-law, Lloyd, live in Brookings and Larry and Charlotte enjoy the activities of their five grandchildren, with number six on the way; and,

Whereas, Larry will retire as Secretary of the Department of Agriculture on March 26, 2007, having served the state of South Dakota's agriculture industry in an outstanding manner for more than 7 years; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper as Governor to recognize Larry's contributions to the state of South Dakota during his years of employment with state government:

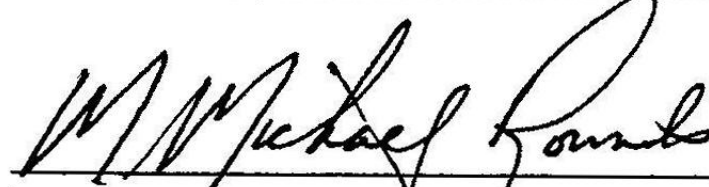
Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim March 26, 2007, as

LARRY E. GABRIEL DAY


in South Dakota, and I join his family, friends and colleagues in offering our congratulations to him.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Ninth Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State